

In the Official Action dated October 2, 2000, Claim 20 was objected to and Claims 2 and 62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In response to this objection and rejection, Claims 2, 20 and 62 have been amended. Favorable consideration is requested.

Claims 1-34, 37-54 and 57-79 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,633,678 (Parulski, et al.). Claim 56 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parulski, et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,901,278 (Kurihara, et al.). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

With respect to independent Claim 1, the present invention relates to a memory medium for use with a memory medium reading device, the memory medium storing image data for a plurality of images and image-reproduction instruction data specifying whether or not certain of the image data is to be output for being selectively reproduced in response to the memory medium reading device reading the image-reproduction instruction data and determining whether the image-reproduction instruction data is in the ON-state or the OFF-state.

The remaining independent claims similarly relate to an apparatus, method or memory medium for storing image data representing a plurality of images and for storing image

reproduction instruction data, or an image output program, indicating whether or not certain of the image data is to be output for being reproduced and determining whether the image-reproduction instruction data is in the ON-state or the OFF-state.

Applicant submits that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicant submits that there are differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The Parulski, et al. patent relates to an electronic still camera which can categorize images according to the subject matter. See Fig. 7. However, Applicant submits that the Parulski, et al. patent fails to disclose or suggest that the image-reproduction instruction data specifies whether or not certain of the image data is to be output for being selectively reproduced in response to the memory medium reading the image-reproduction instruction data and determining whether or not the image-reproduction instruction data is in the ON-state or the OFF-state, as disclosed in the present patent application (see, for example, page 24, lines 7-11 and Figure 3).

The Kurihara, et al. patent relates to a copier for recording images of a plurality of documents onto recording

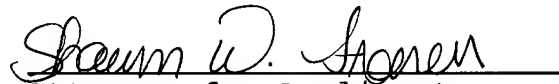
sheets. However, the Kurihara, et al. patent fails to compensate for the deficiencies of Parulski, et al.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are respectfully requested. For the above reasons, Applicant submits that independent Claims 1, 6-8, 11, 15, 21, 39-42, 47, 52, 55, 57, 59 and 61 are allowable over the cited art. The dependent claims depend from one or another of the independent claims and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional features in combination with the features of its respective base claim and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submits that the present application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Shawn W. Fraser", is written over a horizontal line.

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